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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Numerous claims stand rejected based on the new ground of rejection to "Overby". In response, the claims have been amended to further emphasize their patentable distinctions.

Specifically, one of the aspects of the present invention is the ability to model system resources as a "leaky bucket" (e.g., see claim 5). A database maintains the amount of resource usage, and also allows some of the system resources to be decremented over time. In this way, the total system resources that are being used are continually decreased, freeing up additional system resources. By freeing up the additional system resources, the system can allow "increased usage of the resource by the process based on said decreasing", as now claimed.

Each of the claims have been amended to recite a database that stores total system resources, and also reduces the resource usage according to a function of time. Claim 2 specifies that the resource can be one of memory space or system processor time. In any case, the resource usage is decreased as a function of time (e.g. like a leaky bucket) and the system allows that decreased amount of resource to be used by something

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else.


Overby certainly does teach maintaining avoidance of conflicts among shared resources. However, Overby does not teach a system that maintains a database indicating total resource usage, where about total resource usage decreases as a function of time. Therefore, it is respectfully suggested that the newly amended claims should be allowable over the cited prior art, which does not teach this reduction in resources.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance.


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Respectfully submitted,

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Scott C. Harris
Reg. No. 32,030
Attorney for Intel Corporation

Fish & Richardson P.C.
Customer Number: 20985 *  *
4350 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 500
San Diego, CA 92122
Telephone: (858) 678-5070
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099

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